

FOCAL POINT

We're counting on you: 2010 Census Underway

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and you're enjoying a successful start to 2009. While local and national headlines continue to share stories about economic challenges, there is a federal, nationwide project already underway that provides potential job opportunities and federal funding for Frisco and our residents.



MAYOR'S
MESSAGE

**MAYOR
MAHER MASO**

"How?" you ask. The short, simple answer is 'Be Counted' in the 2010 Census. Every year, more than \$300 billion in federal funds is awarded to states and communities based on census data. That is more than \$3 trillion over a 10-year period. The census helps us address the planning for new schools, hospitals and other services. Federal, state and local grants, including community development block grants, are based on census data. The federal government also uses population data to allocate funds for school districts, as well as programs for the elderly, women, infants and children (WIC) and Head Start. Our federal government considers this data when providing funding for public transportation, as well as road construction and improvements. Given our growth, any financial assistance improving mobility in our city and the North Texas region is invaluable to our quality of life and economic success.

The census is also used to determine the number of elected representatives in our area. Specifically, the 2010 Census will determine the number of seats each state has in the House of

See **mayor**, next page

Victim Assistance Program helps care for needs after a crime

The Frisco Police Department is committed to serving victims of violent crimes. The department's Victim Assistance Program was created to provide assistance to crime victims and their families with immediate health and safety needs as well as the emotional needs that follow a traumatic experience.

"The initial response by a police officer in any crime is to protect life, secure crime scenes, and conduct an investigation as to what happened," said police Capt. Greg Ward. "The officer usually does not have the expertise to help the emotional needs of the victim."

The moment a violent crime happens the victim's life is forever changed. They are no longer the exact same person they were prior to the crime. Crime victimization can negatively affect the victim, the victim's friends and family and even the community. Not everyone who is a crime victim responds in the same manner; however, commonly reported emotional symptoms directly related to the victimization include (but are not limited to) grief, despair, anger, guilt, fear, numbness, and loss of control.

One violent crime victim recently gave Frisco police a sad commentary on her state of mind. She said it would be nice to once again be naïve and innocent about crime victimization – the way she was prior to the crime. Many victims also report physical abnormalities which can include inability to sleep or stay asleep, nightmares, lack of concentration, and flashbacks.

Ward explains, "The Victim Assistance program is designed

to provide immediate crisis intervention, referral to social service agencies and assistance in navigating the criminal justice system."

But not all victims of crime will need or seek services immediately following the event. It is important for family and friends to be supportive and to help them feel safe. You may encourage them to seek professional assistance. Studies have shown victims of violent crimes who do not seek counseling increase their risk for developing post-traumatic stress disorder which can prolong the individual's recovery. (PTSD is a severe and on-going emotional reaction to trauma).

Depending on the type of crime, individuals may feel responsible and/or too embarrassed to seek counseling. Others, particularly those who are victims of domestic violence, may not seek assistance out of fear. If you know of someone who is a victim of domestic violence, understand that "just leaving" will not completely resolve the problem. Instead, encourage your friend or loved one to seek guidance from professionals who will assist with safety planning, shelter and counseling.

An Allstate Foundation survey taken two months ago questioned 29 shelters across Texas and found a significant increase in the demand for services in 2008. The December survey found 83 percent had more hotline calls and women and children staying at their shelters than the previous year. Of the shelters surveyed the closest location to Frisco was Dallas.

Capt. Ward says financial cri-

sis can aggravate an already volatile domestic situation, but there is more involved in domestic violence than an economic trend.

"Hard economic times cause stress, but that alone does not cause someone to become violent," said Police Victim Advocate

Tonia Cunningham. "In most instances, the abuser has abused before and will abuse again, regardless of the economic situation."

The Frisco Police Department tracks calls for service for family

See **program**, next page

HELPFUL RESOURCES

(Recommended by the Frisco Police Victim Assistance Program)

Behavioral Problems and Counseling Services

Child and Family Guidance Centers
4031 W. Plano Pkwy #211
Plano, TX 75093
214-351-3490

City House (Collin Intervention to Youth)

947 Avenue K #400
Plano, TX 75074
972-424-4626

Crossroads Family Services

2600 Avenue K #140
Plano, TX 75074
972-578-2802

Crisis Intervention, Domestic Violence, Rape Crisis & Shelter

Denton County Friends of the Family
Denton, TX
940-387-5131

Hope's Door

2701-C West 15th St.
Plano, TX 75075
972-422-7233

Mosaic Family Services

(Multi-lingual)
4144 N. Central Expressway #530
Dallas, TX 75204
214-821-5393

The Turning Point Rape Crisis Center

Plano, TX
800-886-7273

Credit Counseling, Emergency Assistance and Legal Aid

Consumer Credit Counseling of North Central Texas
901 McDonald #600
McKinney, TX 75069
972-542-0257

Frisco Family Services

8780 3rd St.
Frisco, TX 75034
972-335-9495

Legal Aid of Northwest Texas

901 N. McDonald St. #702
McKinney, TX 76069
972-542-9405

The Samaritan Inn

(Homeless Shelter)
1710 McDonald
McKinney, TX 75071
972-542-5302

Psychiatric Services

Lifepath Systems
3920 Alma, Plano 75023
972-562-0190

Substance Abuse

Avenues Counseling Center
201 W. Louisiana St.
McKinney, TX 75069
972-562-9647



HOW TO REACH US

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Candidate filing begins February 7 for two city council seats

Candidates interested in running for Frisco City Council may file for a place on the May 2008 ballot, beginning February 7. The last day to file for Frisco City Council is March 9.

Two seats, including Places 1 and 3, will be open. All positions on the Frisco City Council are "at large" positions. Candidates must reside in the City of Frisco one year prior to filing.

Candidate "information packets" – which detail the minimum requirements for filing for office – may be picked up at the City Secretary's Office, 5th Floor, City Hall, George A.

Purefoy Municipal Complex, 6101 Frisco Square Blvd.

Candidate packets are available now, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Early voting, by personal appearance, begins April XX through May XX. Voters may cast early ballots at Frisco Fire Station #4, 4485 Cotton Gin; Preston Ridge Campus, Collin County Community College, 9700 Wade Blvd.; and the Collin County Elections Office, 2010 Red Bud Blvd., Suite 102, in McKinney.

Early voting hours are Monday

through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The General Joint Election will be held Saturday, May 2 from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

In an effort to provide voter convenience and encourage higher voter turnout, the City of Frisco will continue to offer three polling locations. Voters must cast ballots at their designated polling place, on Election Day only. Voters are encouraged to bring their voter registration cards.

For additional information, please contact the Office of the City Secretary at (972) 292-5010.

PROGRAM

Continued from page 1

disturbances, arrests made at the scene, and offense reports taken. From July 2007 to December 2007 Frisco police officers responded to 532 calls for family disturbances. That does not mean an actual "crime" has taken place,

only a reported disturbance. The calls resulted in 116 offense reports (with 69 arrests at the scene).

For the same period in 2008, July to December, Frisco police recorded 58 fewer calls for domestic disturbances. Of 474 calls, 155 resulted in offense reports (with 75 arrests at the scene).

The services of the Frisco Police Victim's Assistance Program include: crisis counseling/short term counseling to victims and their families'; criminal

justice support, criminal justice system information; information and referral to local social service providers; notification and assistance in filing for Crime Victims' Compensation; assistance with evidence return and personal advocacy.

For more information about the Victim Assistance Program please call Tonia Cunningham at 972-292-6141. See the box on this page for a list of resources recommended by the Frisco Police Department.

MAYOR

Continued from page 1

Representatives. States also use the information to redraw legislative districts.

With our fast growth over the past decade, it's challenging to track the number of residents who call Frisco home. Our city planners use the number of building permits issued to estimate our population. As of January first of this year, we estimate our population at 102,435. Census data gives our City Council and staff a more specific 'snapshot' of how Frisco is changing.

Speaking of 'change', the way the 2010 Census data will be collected is changing, too. The 2010 Census will be short form only – just 10 easy questions – and every household will receive a short questionnaire that is simple and fast to complete and return.

You may remember filling out a long form, which was delivered to one in six households during the last census. Now, the long form is part of the annual American Community Survey. If

you're wondering if your answers to the census are really confidential, the answer is absolutely! Your answers are protected by law. It's illegal for the Census Bureau and its employees to share your personal information with any government agency – not law enforcement, IRS, Welfare, or Immigration, to name a few. In fact, not even the President of the United States can access your individual answers!

Although the 2010 Census questionnaires will not be delivered to households until mid March of 2010, the census awareness campaign is already underway. Elected officials, nationwide, are being asked to organize a Complete Count Committee (CCC) to promote the census effort.

As Mayor, I've appointed resident Bill Woodard to chair our Frisco CCC and Lee Myrben to serve as a liaison. Bill is president of the Panther Creek Estates Homeowners Association and serves on our Zoning Advisory Committee. Lee is commander of Frisco's VFW Post 8273 and is a member of the Mayor's Advisory Committee, which is one of my communication initiatives. Bill and Lee will work with staff representatives from various city

departments, including Planning and Development Services and Communications and Media Relations, as well as representatives from FISC to help make the census data gathering in Frisco a success.

Operations are already underway to recruit hundreds of workers in the area to ensure a complete and accurate count in 2010. Call the 2010 Census job line (866) 861-2010 to schedule a basic employment test. These short term job opportunities offer paid training and mileage reimbursements. Part time and full time positions will be available and the actual jobs assignments will last five to ten weeks.

For more information on how to get involved in the 2010 Census, please contact the Dallas Region Partnership Staff at (214) 296-4004. For more information on the nationwide effort, check out <http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/specialopportunities.php>

I hope you will join me and 'be counted' during the 2010 Census. Frisco is counting on you!

**Regards,
Maher Maso
Mayor**

Municipal Court closed for staff development February 2 and 3

Frisco's Municipal Court will be closed for judicial and clerk training on Monday, February 2 and Tuesday, February 3, 2009. The court will reopen on Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 7:30 a.m. Any filings or payments due to the court on February 2 or February 3 will be received as 'on time' on or before February 4, 2009.

Payments and paperwork may be mailed to the Frisco Municipal Court at 6865 Main St., Frisco, TX 75034. The U.S. Postal Service postmark serves as the submission date. Payments may also be made on the court's Web site at <https://secure.udsinc.com/odp/ocip/friscotx/>. To make a payment by phone, dial 972-292-5570 or 972-292-5571.

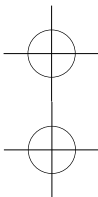
Visit us on the Web!

Looking for detailed information about a City of Frisco service or event?

Check out **frisco-texas.gov**, your complete guide to the city government.

Look for the latest alerts and press releases on the home page, or sign up to receive City of Frisco news to your email address.

To subscribe, go to the home page and click on 'E-News'.





Frisco debuts new, integrated document management system; video streaming of council meetings, programs now accessible online

Frisco has a new, integrated document management system. The system allows improved, easier access to Frisco City Council agendas, minutes and – for the first time ever – online access to televised council meetings is now just a link away at www.friscotexas.gov.

Residents can watch council meetings in real time – or ‘live’ – online. Meeting minutes and the ‘indexed’, video taped version of the meeting will be published within 24 hours of the end of the ‘live’ meeting. Also for the first time, the city’s government access cable channel, Frisco Television Network (FTVN), is accessible online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“It’s an integrated solution that provides everything from city council agendas and minutes to the video streaming of those meetings, which is tied to those records (agendas, meetings). Plus, we can now provide the bonus of video on demand, giving citizens access to city programs produced for our government access channel,” said Ron Patterson, Assistant City Manager. “It’s the integration of all these records that makes our system different from most.” Patterson describes the implementation of this new system as a ‘major shift’ in the way Frisco does the City Council’s administrative business, moving away from a manual process to an automated process.

Work on an integrated system began a year ago when Frisco recognized some vendors offered ‘turnkey’ solutions. As a result, Frisco decided efforts by individual department staff to streamline respective work processes would be better served by incorporating staff’s expertise, research and budgets into a single effort – under an integrated project umbrella, of sorts. Led by Patterson, a core team of representatives from the City Manager’s Office, the City Secretary’s Office, IT, and Communications along with a liaison team made up of a representative from every department worked together to find a solution at the direction of the Frisco City Council.

“We’re always excited about systems and processes that improve our efficiency and give our citizens greater access to their city government and essentially City Hall,” said Mayor Maher Maso. “Open government and communication are high priorities for our council, and this system compliments our efforts. Aside from saving staff time, this system is very eco friendly by reducing the amount of paper

we use. Being ‘green’ is another priority for Frisco. This system is one our council unanimously decided was well worth our investment.”

In May of last year, the Frisco City Council unanimously approved staff’s recommendation to purchase the integrated system by SIRE Technologies for \$232,884.

“When you compare the system’s overall cost to the savings in the staff time involved in assembling, tracking, researching and responding to information requests, not to mention the savings in paper costs. At the end of the day, the total cost is not substantially more than other products,” said Patterson.

Patterson and Mayor Maso applaud the system’s cutting edge technology, which streamlines process by providing a seamless, electronic workflow. Curt Balogh, Director of Information Technology, says the SIRE system puts a tremendous amount of information at a person’s fingertips with easy, quick access.

“The preparation of an agenda packet, which sometimes can approach 500 pages of documents, drawings, plans and other ‘backup’ materials has required the manual routing of those materials through the entire review and approval process,” said Balogh. “Because the SIRE integrated system includes electronic workflow, ‘backup’ materials can be scanned once and attached electronically to an agenda item. The materials are available for review by all interested staff and management at the same time. This significantly reduces staff reproduction time and meeting times to review materials.”

While city council agendas and minutes have been online for years, Frisco’s previous system provided PDF file versions of agendas, minutes, and oftentimes limited access to back up materials due to a file’s nature and size. The ‘old’ system was outdated and not considered very ‘user friendly’, by some. However, video streaming of council meetings and city produced television programming hasn’t been available until now.

“We’re excited to be able to give our citizens online access to our City Council meetings and the shows we (Communications) produce for our government access cable channel,” said Dana Baird, Director of Communications and Media Relations. “Now, citizens don’t need to have cable to see our programming. In fact, they don’t even need a TV.

All they need is access to a computer.”

Baird adds, for residents who prefer to watch city council meetings on their televisions or ‘big screens’, Frisco cable subscribers now have another option. For the first time ever, Frisco is now broadcasting regularly scheduled city council meetings ‘live’ on the first and third Tuesdays of every month. FTVN can be viewed on Grande channel 12 and Time Warner channel 16.

Improved records management is another benefit of the SIRE integrated system. According to city staff, the integrated system enhances Frisco’s ability to track the history of any agenda item considered by city council. The system will track an item’s first appearance on an agenda, any ‘action taken’ and execution. Ultimately, the item is electronically stored and archived for easy retrieval upon a records’ request.

“How we process a Public Information Request (PIR) for items going before the council will be streamlined,” said Patterson. “Plus, finding and getting that

type of information will become even easier.”

Balogh echoes Patterson’s promotion of SIRE, adding users will find a simpler, more user friendly online interface enabling them to search and find records of interest without assistance, in many cases. “These systems also provide needed capability to ensure the City of Frisco complies with state law regarding records management and records retention,” added Balogh.

Debuting this month are minutes management and video streaming. Staff anticipates the conversion of ‘old’ records from LaserFiche to SIRE will begin in February. The new system for posting agendas first appeared online in October.

“What we’re automating is the administrative process, not the decision making. Our citizens are now able to see the same information our council is using for the decisions they make. That kind of access makes for a more open government,” added Patterson.

New water and sewer rate increase effective on February utility bill

Frisco residents and business owners will notice new water and sewer rates take effect on their February utility bill from the city. City council members approved a water/sewer rate increase on December 2, 2008 for commercial and residential water and sewer utility accounts.

Water Rates:

\$11.00 (minimum) for the first 2000 gallons
\$2.69/per thousand for 2,001 to 15,000 gallons
\$3.15/per thousand for 15,001 to 25,000 gallons
\$3.39/per thousand for 25,001 or more gallons

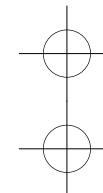
Sewer Rates:

\$11.00 (minimum) for the first 2000 gallons
\$2.50/per thousand for 2,001 or more

The minimum monthly sewer charge will be \$11.00 for any single-family residential unit whose water consumption does not exceed 2,000 gallons for the month. The minimum monthly sewer charge shall be \$19.46 for commercial and industrial users whose water consumption does not exceed 2,000 gallons for the month.

For each consumer whose water consumption in any month exceeds 2,000 gallons, the monthly sewer rate shall be \$2.50 per thousand gallons of water or fraction thereof. The charge for single-family residential sewer service will be determined by averaging the January, February and March water bills and applying the applicable rates.

Call 972-292-5575 or email utilitybilling@friscotexas.gov for additional information. You can pay your utility bill online. Go to the home page of FriscoTexas.gov and choose ‘Online Services’. From the Online Services page choose the ‘Utility Payments’ option.



Monthly Road Project Update

The City of Frisco Engineering Services Department has the most current information on road projects available online. Go to www.friscotexas.gov/projectupdate.

1 CR 712 (Frisco Street - North County Road): Scope: Construction of four lanes from Frisco Street to the RR crossing and two lanes from the RR Crossing to North County Road. Construction began July 2008. Estimated completion of construction is February 2009.

2 City Hall Parking Garage: Scope: Construct a five-story parking structure to accommodate roughly 570 cars. Estimated completion of design is spring 2009.

3 Frisco Square Boulevard Railroad Crossing: Scope: Street connection of Frisco Square Boulevard across the railroad tracks from Cook Street to West Main Street. Project includes relocating the Elm Street crossing to Frisco Square Boulevard with the RR signal and crossing gates. Construction began September 2008; Estimated completion date is February 2009.

4 Eldorado Parkway (DNT - Preston Road) w/ overpass: Scope: Construct the northern three lanes and the third lane on the south side. This will complete the ultimate six-lane divided roadway with median and includes additional overpass at the BNSF RR. Landscaping, irrigation, and street lighting are included in this project. Design of six-lane facility is 95 percent complete. Estimated start of construction is March 2009.

5 FM 2934/Eldorado Pkwy (DNT - FM 423): Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. Bid by TxDOT Feb 7, 2008. Construction began September 2008. Estimated completion is summer 2010.

6 FM 3537/Main Improvements (Custer-

Preston): Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. Design is approximately 60 percent complete. Estimated completion of design is summer 2009.

7 FM 423 Improvements (Stewart Creek - Eldorado Parkway): Scope: Replace existing two-lane asphalt roadway with six-lane concrete roadway with median. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT and includes streetlights, and traffic signals. Estimated start of construction is fall 2009.

8 FM 423 Improvements (Eldorado Parkway - US 380): Scope: Replace existing two lane asphalt roadway with a six-lane concrete roadway with median. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. Est. start of construction is spring 2010.

9 Dogwood Street & Meadow Lane (Main - McKinney): Scope: Reconstruct Meadow Lane & Dogwood Street with concrete surface and curb and gutter. Street lighting is included in this project. Project was bid in November 2008. Construction began January 5, 2009.

10 Rolater Road 42" Water Line (Coit Rd - Preston Rd): Scope: Construct 42-inch steel water pipe line from Coit Road to Preston Road. Project is currently under construction. Construction is expected to be complete in spring 2009.

11 Panther Creek Parkway (Teel - DNT): Scope: Construction of four-lane divided roadway including landscape, irrigation, and street lighting. Extend four lanes of Legacy Drive to connect with Panther Creek Parkway. All construction was completed in January 2009.

12 FM 2478/Custer Rd (Stonebridge - US 380): Scope: Widen existing two lane

asphalt roadway to six lane concrete divided roadway. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT in January 2009. Estimated start of construction is early 2009.

13 Teel Pkwy (Panther Creek Pkwy - North of Little River): Scope: Construct eastern two lanes of Teel to provide four lanes of the ultimate six lane road. Project is currently under construction. This project will be jointly funded by Frisco ISD. Construction began in June 2008. Estimated completion is January 2009.

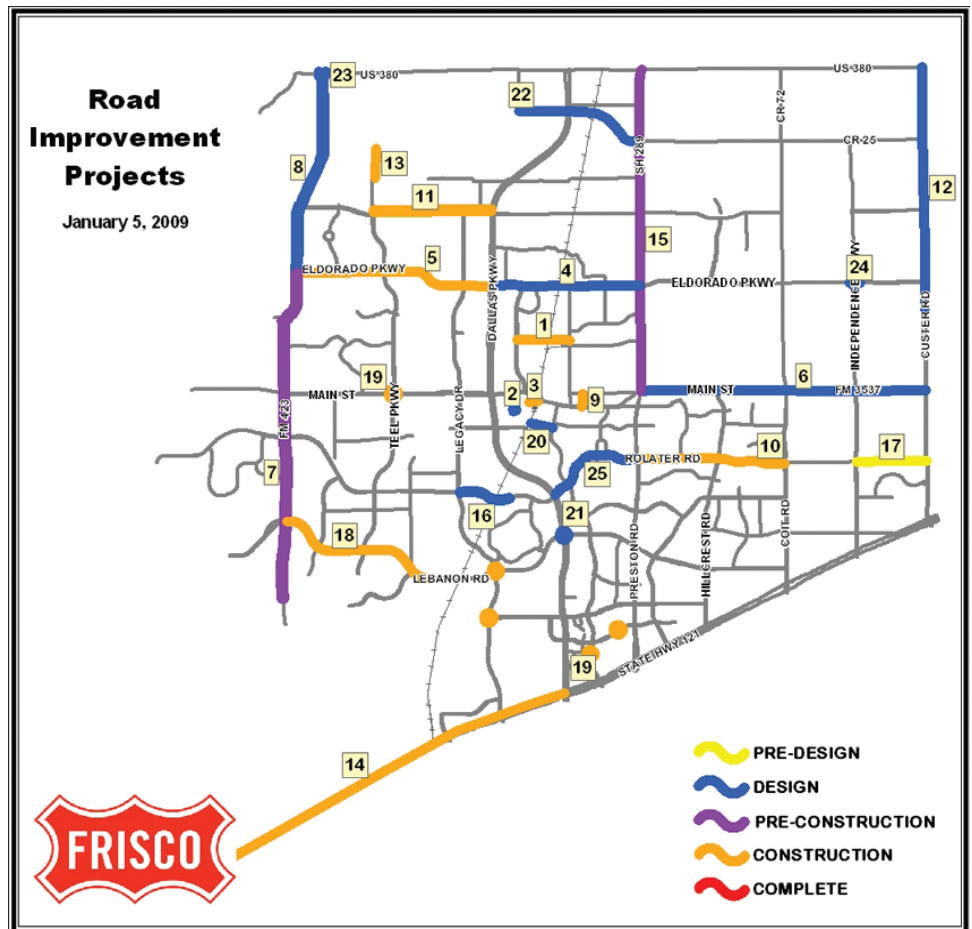
14 SH 121 Freeway FM 544 to DNT: Scope: Construct six main lanes and six lanes of frontage roads from FM 544 to Dallas North Tollway. Main lanes opened to traffic in September 2008. Estimated completion of construction is early 2009.

15 SH 289/Preston Rd (Main - US 380): Scope: Construct a six-lane divided roadway, which will replace the existing two-lane asphalt roadway. This project will be bid and constructed by TxDOT. Project was bid by TxDOT in October 2008. Estimated start of construction is early 2009.

16 Stonebrook Parkway (Legacy - Longhorn): Scope: Construct four lanes with an underpass at the BNSF RR, a railroad shoofly, and a bridge at Stewart Creek. Project includes federal wetland, permits, & environmental coordination. Design is 95 percent complete. Estimated start of construction is summer 2009.

17 Rolater Drive (Independence - Custer): Scope: Construct north two lanes of Rolater to provide four lanes of the ultimate six-lane roadway. Design is expected to be complete in summer 2009. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2009

18 Lebanon Road (FM 423 - Presidents Dr.): Scope: Construct the southern two lanes of Lebanon Road from



President's to FM 423 including a three lane bridge at Stewart Creek. This will complete four lanes of an ultimate six-lane divided roadway. Construction began February 2008. Estimated completion is early 2009.

19 Intersection Capacity Improvements: Scope: Intersection improvements at the following intersections: Gaylord/Mall Road F, Parkwood/Hammons, and Main/Teel. Construction began in June 2008. Estimated completion is January 2009.

20 Eubanks Street (Fifth St - BNSF RR): Scope: Reconstruct Eubanks Street with concrete pavement and enclosed storm drainage. Project is under design.

21 Lebanon & DNT

Intersection Improvements: Scope: Construction of additional lanes of traffic for Lebanon to accommodate the NTA bridge widening. This project will increase the lanes on the EB and WB approaches to the tollway. Construction is expected to begin summer 2009.

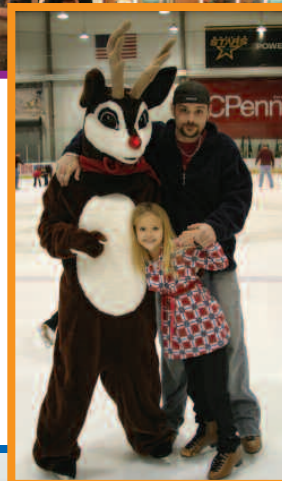
22 Virginia Pkwy (CR26 - Preston): Scope: Construct six lanes from County Road 26 to Preston Road. Project includes a bridge over BNSF RR. Construction is expected to begin in 2010. Project is currently under design. Design is 30 percent complete.

23 NW Infrastructure: Scope: Analyze alternative alignments for water and sewer lines to serve properties near FM 423 and US 380. Estimated completion of design is spring

2009. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2009.

24 Eldorado/Independence Intersection Improvements: Scope: Widen from two lanes to four lanes of ultimate six-lane roadway. Design is approximately 95 percent complete. Construction is expected to begin in early 2009 and to be completed in August 2009, prior to opening of Heritage High School.

25 Stonebrook Pkwy (DNT to Preston Rd): Scope: Install 36 inch waterline, reconstruct westbound lanes, and widen to six lanes. Design is approximately 60 percent complete and is expected to be completed in summer 2009. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2009.



AROUND FRISCO

It was a holly-jolly time at Frisco's 2008 holiday events: **Merry Main Street**, **Breakfast with Santa & Friends**, **Frosty 5K** and **Merry Mile**, **Santa Skate** and **Holiday Lights at Frisco Fire Safety Town**.

Frisco's Parks and Recreation Department estimates Merry Main Street 2008 had the largest attendance in the event's history. Thank you to the many volunteers and sponsors who helped make Frisco's holiday happenings a success.

Look for information on upcoming city-sponsored events online at FriscoTexas.gov/specialevents.

THANK YOU, HOLIDAY EVENT SPONSORS!

Rudolph Sponsor:

Core Construction

Mistletoe Sponsors:

AMLI
Centro Properties Group
Centennial Medical Center
Frisco Square Development
Grande Communications
Laramar Group
Legacy Christian Academy
Rodman Companies

Snowman Sponsors:

California Pizza Kitchen
Capital One Bank
Chick-Fil-A
Custom Muscle Nutrition & Smoothie Shop
Hanshaw Kennedy, LLP
My Party Place

Thanks to everyone who came out and took part in our holiday events! We hope you had a wonderful time.

Special Thanks To: Dr Pepper StarCenter, Event Volunteers, Frisco Community Brass Ensemble, Frisco ISD, Pizza Hut Park, Mr. Pete Hosp



Frisco Fire Department accepting applications for spring community education classes

Citizen's Fire Academy (CFA)

The Frisco Fire Department is now accepting applications for the Citizen's Fire Academy (CFA) class number 23 starting March 26, 2009. The nine-week program meets on Thursday nights from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. CFA classes provide the community with information about the operation and organization of the Frisco Fire Department. The academy is open to those 18 and older who live or work within the City of Frisco.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

The Frisco Fire Department is now accepting applications for Community Emergency

Response Team (CERT) Class Number 15 which starts March 23, 2009. The nine-week program meets on Monday nights from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. CERT classes train citizens on how to give critical support to first responders in emergencies and provide assistance in the event of a major disaster. The program is open to those 18 or older who either live or work within the City of Frisco.

Applications for the CFA or CERT program, as well as a more detailed description of the classes, are available for download at FriscoFire.com. Applications can also be picked up at any Frisco fire station. Still have questions? Contact the Frisco Fire Department at 972-292-6300 during normal business hours.

Give a green Valentine: 'Chunk Your Junk'

Still looking for that perfect Valentine's Day present? Why not give the gift of a clean garage and green environment. The winter Chunk Your Junk will be held on Valentine's Day, Saturday, February 14, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The location is 6616 Walnut St. Entry will be from southbound First Street only. Other entries to the drop off location will be closed. For directions to the facility, call 972-292-5900 or go to www.FriscoTexas.gov/recycle.

The following items can be brought for safe disposal, recycling, or donation. In order to reduce idling time, the items are listed in the order which they can be unloaded at the event.

Please load your vehicle accordingly:

- Documents for shredding
- Cardboard
- Metal and appliances
- Yard waste, limbs and untreated wood for mulching
- Fencing
- Styrofoam, other trash
- Household chemicals (gasoline, oil, paint, pesticides, solvents

and batteries)

- Computers, printers, cell phones and other e-waste
- Old clothes, furniture, books for donation

There will be a \$40 charge for all appliances and items requiring Freon extraction which will be applied to the next utility bill. A driver's license and current water bill are required for all chemical, electronic and appliance drop off.

Do not risk identity theft by tossing your personal information in the trash. A free paper shredding service will also be on site to safely recycle unwanted documents. There is a four-box limit per household, with box size not to exceed 12" W x 15.5" L x 10.5" H. We cannot accept commercial paperwork.

Show up early! This popular program sponsored by the City of Frisco Environmental Services Division continues to grow in popularity. In order to provide the best service, no vehicles will be allowed in line after 11:30 a.m. to make sure everyone already in line can make it through the drop-off stations by the time the event ends at noon.

Frisco Fire Safety Town celebrating two years of teaching children to play it safe

Has your child been to Frisco Fire Safety Town yet? If you don't know how the facility works, now is a great time to check it out. You can join the more than 82,000 people who have experienced the one-of-a-kind safety education program since opening in January 2007.

Overseen by the Frisco Fire Department, Safety Town provides free safety education programs to elementary-aged children in a fun and interactive environment. Study trips are arranged through public, private and home schools. Classes focus on a number of safety topics, each with the goal of preventing injuries and helping children make good choices for their safety.

Go online to www.frisco-texas.gov/safetytown to learn more about the 2009 programs offered to children in kindergarten through fifth grade.



As Safety Town celebrates its second anniversary, the Frisco Fire Department would like to gratefully acknowledge those sponsors who have contributed to its success:

- Architects Phelps Wood
- Babe's Chicken
- BELO
- Centennial Medical Center
- City of Frisco
- CORE Construction
- CoServ Gas
- D. R. Horton
- The Dallas Morning News
- Dave Manders Landscaping
- E-One

- Fannin Tree Farm
- Farmers Insurance Company
- Fed-Ex Kinko's
- Frisco I.S.D
- Frisco Noon and Sunrise Rotary
- Holmatro
- K. Hovnanian Homes
- Kaufman Company
- Lee Lewis Construction
- Leigh Glendenning Real Estate
- Llano Utilities
- Mario Sinacola and Sons
- North Texas Tollway Authority
- Oncor Electric
- Pavestone
- Petri Electric
- Dr. and Mrs. Erwin Pink
- Prosperity Bank
- Pulte Homes
- Richardson Bike Mart
- Rodman Companies
- Steve Roberts Homes
- Tyler Technologies
- Wal-Mart
- WFAA-TV

Citizens Police Academy offers more 'hands-on' activities for participants

The Frisco Citizen Police Academy (CPA) is an interesting and informative program that educates citizens who live or work in Frisco about our police department, its divisions and practices. Instructors are officers and employees of the Frisco Police Department.

The Frisco CPA meets one night a week (on a Thursday) for ten weeks. The next CPA is scheduled to begin on March 26, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Classes are held in the training room at the Frisco Police Department, located at 7200 Stonebrook Pkwy.

The program has recently been restructured to involve more "hands-on" activities, such as: actual crime scene processing, hand to hand defensive tactics, pistol shooting, high-risk traffic stops and much more. Although each member is encouraged to take part in the scenarios, participation is optional and any member may choose to be a spectator in any portion of the CPA. In order to graduate from the program, participants may not miss more than two classes.

Once you have completed the CPA curriculum, we hope you will want to become part of the Frisco Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association and/or Frisco Citizens on Patrol. Both are active in community support and educational organizations. Go to fcpa.org for more information.

In order to attend you will need to fill out an application along with the waiver of liability. After your application has been reviewed and processed, your name will be placed on a list (applications are processed on a first come basis). In February applicants will receive a letter containing specific information about the status of their application along with additional class information.

Since the class size is limited to twenty-five (25) participants we encourage you to enroll as early as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Office Glynda Covington at 972-292-6134, or by e-mail at gcovington@friscotexas.gov.



Check out ‘opportunity’ at the library this New Year

GEORGETTE KINSON

ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN

“We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.” ~Edith Lovejoy Pierce – poet

It is the beginning of another new year and time to rediscover what the Frisco Public Library has waiting for you. At the Frisco Public Library, you will discover state-of-the-art technology. By browsing the library's “virtual branch” at digital.friscolibrary.com, you can download digital audiobooks, eBooks, videos and music for free from our Web site. Take the Digital Media Self Guided Tour to get started and experience the new ways to enjoy books and more from your public library with the click of a button.

We are also an Internet

hotspot. Bring your personal laptop computer on your next visit to the library, and you can access our free Wi-Fi service from all three publicly accessible floors. Or take advantage of free Internet access on over 75 public computers spread throughout the library. You can even sign up for free computer classes which are offered each month in the library's computer lab.

Be sure to check out the new collection of ESL materials on the fourth floor. If English is your second language and you want to improve your skills in writing, speaking, and reading English, you will find both books and audio materials to assist you. The ESL collection is conveniently located on the fourth floor, east wall (just before you enter the general non-fiction area). Of course, our friendly staff members at the “Ask Us” desk will be glad to assist you with these items.

Don't have a library card, yet? Getting one is free and easy. Applications may be completed online at the library's Web site www.friscolibrary.com or in person inside the library. All you need is a picture I.D. and proof of your current Texas address. With your new library card you will receive a personal identification number which allows you to manage your account online from anywhere in the world.

You will also find a wealth of information on the library's Web site. You can browse the bestsellers and award winners, read reviews and recommendations, find a book discussion group, and explore the many exciting programs and lectures hosted by the library just for adults. We recently celebrated the New Year at our special event entitled “Fitness in Frisco: Get Back to Healthy Living in 2009” with the Frisco Parks

and Recreation Department. Be sure to check our calendar of events regularly as we continue to unveil more exciting programs and events in the future!

Our circulation of materials is up 100 percent and still climbing! We invite you to grow with us. We will be glad to help you search for that elusive book called “Opportunity.” And remember.... “A good library will never be too neat, or too dusty, because somebody will always be in it, taking books off the shelves and staying up late reading them.” ~Lemony Snicket in *Horseradish: Bitter Truths You Can't Avoid*.

For more information on any of the programs, services, or opportunities for adults at the Frisco Public Library, please visit www.friscolibrary.com or call 972-292-5669.

HOMETOWN HAPPENINGS

February 2

- Frisco Public Arts Board Meeting, Conference Room 5A, 6:30 p.m.

February 3

- Downtown Advisory Board, 5th Floor Conference Room, 12:00 p.m.
- City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

February 10

- Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Meeting, Council Chambers 6:30 p.m.

February 11

- Convention Visitors Bureau (CVB), TBD, 12 p.m.
- Housing Trust Fund, Council Chambers, 5:00 p.m.

February 12

- Parks and Recreation Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

February 17

- City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

February 18

- Economic Development Corp. Board of Directors Meeting (EDC), 6801 Gaylord Pkwy, 6 p.m.

February 19

- Arts of Collin County (ACC), City of Allen, 4 p.m.
- Community Development Corporation (CDC) Meeting, Conference Room 3A, 6:30 p.m.

February 23

- Frisco Neighborhood Watch General Meeting, Police Dept., 7200 Stonebrook Pkwy., 7:30 p.m.

February 24

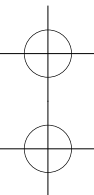
- Heritage Association of Frisco, Heritage Center Museum Theatre, 6455 Page St., 10 a.m.
- Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Meeting, Council Chambers 6:30 p.m.

February 25

- Urban Forestry Board, 6726 Walnut St., 6:30 p.m.

February 26

- North Texas Municipal Water District Meeting, 505 East Brown St., Wylie, TX, 4 p.m.
- Frisco Public Library Foundation Board Meeting, Library Programming Room, 6:45 p.m.



Black Plate

Holley named new director of Frisco Public Library

Following a three month search, a familiar face is the next leader of the Frisco Public Library. Shelley Holley, Assistant Library Director and Head of Public Services, has been named the new Director of the Frisco Public Library following the announcement in 2008 that Dr. Ron Heezen was retiring in January 2009.

“I'm thrilled to continue my library career here in Frisco,” said Holley. “It's no secret the Frisco Public Library is on the leading edge of inspiring the



intellect, curiosity and imagination. Due to the excellent library staff and the support of the Frisco City Councils, past and present, our library will continue to enrich lives within our community.”

Holley brings twenty years of Library Services experience to her new job, including the

past seven years with the Frisco Public Library. Holley was hired by the City of Frisco's Public Library in 2001 and promoted to Assistant Library Director in 2007.

Spring into ‘fun’ with Frisco Parks and Recreation

The spring edition of the Frisco Fun Activity Guide will be available to preview online January 26 at FriscoFun.org. Frisco Athletic Center members and past class participants will begin receiving the guide in the mail beginning February 1. To pick up a copy of the spring guide, please visit one of the following locations: the Frisco Public Library, Chamber of Commerce, Parks & Recreation Administration Building or the Frisco Athletic Center.

The Frisco Fun activity guide contains information on classes, programs and leagues offered through the Frisco Parks & Recreation Department. This edition will also feature Spring Break camps. Registration for classes begins February 2 for Frisco Athletic Center members. In order to benefit from this early registration, monthly members must have a current membership at the time that the class begins.

Non-members may begin registering for classes February 4. Registration is available online at FriscoFun.org, by mail or in-person at the Frisco Athletic Center, located at 5828 Nancy Jane Ln., during regular hours of business.



Catch a good time at Frisco's Trick-A-Trout Kid Fish

Whether it is a family tradition or a new hobby, fishing can be a fun pastime for the entire family. The City of Frisco has a great opportunity for children cast a line.

Grab the fishing poles and bring the kids to enjoy a FREE morning of fishing at the annual Trick-A-Trout Kid Fish on Saturday, February 14. The Frisco Parks & Recreation Department will be releasing more than 3,000 Rainbow Trout into the pond at Frisco Commons Park, located at 8000 McKinney Road.

This event is open to kids (and the adult teaching them to fish) from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. After 11 a.m. fishing is open to the general public. Those attending must bring their own fishing gear including bait, tackle and stringer. For more information, please visit the Parks and Recreation Web site FriscoFun.org.



Daddy Daughter Dance

Spend an enchanted evening with your little princess: Daddy Daughter Dance tickets on sale while they last.

Take a turn on the dance floor at the 13th Annual Daddy Daughter Dance happening Saturday, February 7 at the Frisco Conference Center, located at 7600 John Q. Hammons Dr. Tickets are on sale for each of the four dance times while they last. This year's theme is 'Enchanted Forest'.

Dance Times:

Ages: 4 – 5: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Ages: 6 – 7: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Ages: 8 – 9: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Ages: 10 – 12: 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 per person, both dad's and daughters must each purchase a ticket for the dance. Dads attending more than one dance time must purchase a ticket for each dance they attend. The time slots with designated ages are recommendations only. You may purchase tickets to any dance, but you must attend the dance for which you have tickets.

Tickets are on sale at the Frisco Athletic Center, 5828 Nancy Jane Ln. or online. To find out more about purchasing tickets online, go to FriscoTexas.gov/specialevents. You will see a link to the Parks and Recreation Department's eFun online registration page. Light refreshments will also be served at



each dance. Free parking space is limit, and a free shuttle service will be provided from Dr Pepper Ballpark. Valet parking service is available at a cost of \$8.

This year the Embassy Suites Hotel Convention Center & Spa's is offering an exclusive room rate of \$89. The hotel's restaurant, Cyprus Grille, will be offering dinner for an additional cost. See FriscoTexas.gov/specialevents for information on making reservations for a room or dinner.

Portrait packages are also available for \$22. Payment in cash or check is due at the dance. Still have questions about the Daddy Daughter Dance? Call 972-292-6600 for a response.



Coming next month -- The 17th Annual Easter Eggstravaganza

is set for the morning of Saturday, March 28

Expect all of your favorite activities from Eggstravaganzas past including an appearance by Mr. and Mrs. Cotton-tail and thousands of eggs up for grabs from the Easter Bunny. So mark your calendars, brush off your baskets and then look for complete details in the March edition of Focal Point.

